

ANTHONY D. WEINER
9th District, New York

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

DEMOCRATIC WHIP

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3209

September 1, 2009

1122 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 225-6810

DISTRICT OFFICE (FA):
80-02 Kew Gardens Plaza
Suite 6000
Kew Gardens, NY 11415
(718) 620-0901

1000 SHEPHERD BAY ROAD
Brooklyn, NY 11235
(718) 743-0141

80-10 ROCKAWAY BLVD BOULEVARD
ROCKAWAY, NY 11623
(718) 318-0255

Commissioner Allan H. Selig
Commissioner
Office of the Commissioner of Baseball
245 Park Ave., 31st floor
New York, NY 10167

George Bodenheimer
President
ESPN, Inc. & ABC Sports
77 West 66th Street
New York, NY 10012

Dear Commissioner Selig & Mr. Bodenheimer:

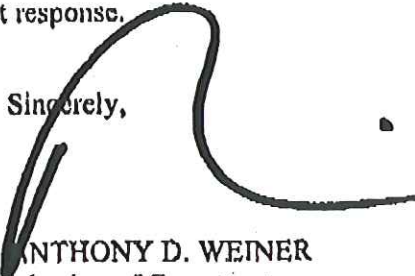
I write to express my disappointment with the rescheduling of the New York Yankees vs. Boston Red Sox game from the afternoon to the evening of September 27th, which is the beginning of the most holy Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur. I urge you to switch the game back to its originally scheduled time of 1 p.m.

As I am sure you are aware, Yom Kippur begins at sundown on Sunday September 27 in New York and continues until one hour after sundown on Monday, September 28. Jews will refrain from work, will fast and will attend synagogue services beginning on Sunday evening. Because the game was moved, it now runs into direct conflict with the religious requirement for players, such as Kevin Youkilis of the Red Sox, team personnel and fans to be home by sundown. In New York in particular, home of the largest Jewish community in America, the current scheduling of this game ensures that any observant Jew who purchased tickets will lose their money because they will be unable to attend due to religious reasons.

There's no reason why the largest Jewish community in the country should be punished for a last-minute scheduling swap. I'm hopeful that ESPN will do the right thing and return the game to its 1 p.m. start and that ESPN will show greater sensitivity when making scheduling decisions in the future.

I look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,



ANTHONY D. WEINER
Member of Congress